

ATTACHMENT A: CROSS REFERENCES

SECRET

Cross Reference

This application is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application S/N 09/046,120 filed 20 Mar 1998 by E. B. Boden, D. G. Geiser and F. V. Paxhia for System and Method for Business Process Space Definition.

09/046,120

[illegible]

1 1. [Amended] Method for representing any business process
2 or processes as a set or sets of tuples, comprising the
3 steps of:

4 defining each of a plurality of processes as a 3-tuple
5 including a noun, a verb and an attribute; and

6 displaying a selected process as a point in navigation
7 space.

1 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

2 displaying selection lists, including a noun selection
3 list, a verb selection list and an attribute selection
4 list;

5 responsive to user selection of a 3-tuple including
6 noun, a verb and an attribute from said selection
7 lists, highlighting the point in navigation space
8 corresponding to said 3-tuple.

9 3. [Amended] The method of claim 1, further comprising
10 the steps of:

11 responsive to user selection of a zoom in action in

12 connection with a selected process point, determining
13 if said selected process point is zoomable; and, if so

14 highlighting in a new navigation space the process
15 points referenced by selected process point
16 definitions;

17 said zoom actions displaying within nested navigation
18 space logical changes in context for navigating said
19 process space to explore or define business processes.

1 4. The method of claim 3, further comprising the steps of:

2 responsive to user selection of a zoom out action in
3 connection with a selected process point, determining
4 if said selected process point is zoomable; and, if so

5 highlighting in a new navigation space the zoomed to
6 process point.

1 5. [Amended] The method of claim 1, further comprising the
2 steps of:

3 responsive to user selection of a create process
4 action, accepting and storing a 3-tuple and process

5 definition in a database of generally represented
6 business processes.

1 6. [Amended] The method of claim 5, further comprising the
2 steps of:

3 responsive to user selection of a process edit action
4 in connection with a selected process, displaying the
5 process definition corresponding to said selected
6 process for editing said selected process by said user.

1 7. [Amended] The method of claim 5, further comprising the
2 steps of:

3 responsive to user selection of a run process action in
4 connection with a selected process from within the
5 context of all other defined business processes for an
6 organization in a multi-dimensional process space,
7 executing said process.

1 9. [Amended] System for representing any business process
2 or processes, comprising:

3 a store containing for each of a plurality of said
4 processes a 3-tuple including a noun, a verb and an

5 attribute; and

6 a display operable to display a selected process as a
7 point in navigation space.

1 10. [Amended] A program storage device readable by a
2 machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions
3 executable by a machine to perform method steps for
4 representing any business processes, said method steps
5 comprising:

6 defining each of a plurality of said processes as a 3-
7 tuple including a noun, a verb and an attribute; and

8 displaying a selected process as a point in navigation
9 space; said point representing logical changes in
10 context of said navigation space for exploring or
11 defining business processes.

1 11. [Amended] An article of manufacture comprising:

2 a computer usable medium having computer readable
3 program code means embodied therein for displaying
4 representations of any business processes, the computer
5 readable program means in said article of manufacture

6 comprising:

7 computer readable program code means for causing a
8 computer to effect defining each of a plurality of said
9 processes as a 3-tuple including a noun, a verb and an
10 attribute; and

11 computer readable program code means for causing a
12 computer to effect displaying a selected process as a
13 point in navigation space; said process point
14 representing logical change in context of said
15 navigation space for exploring or defining business
16 processes.

10 responsive to user selection of a zoom in action in
11 connection with a selected process point, determining
12 if said selected process point is zoomable; and, if so

13 highlighting in a new navigation space the process
14 points referenced by selected process point
15 definitions;

16 said zoom actions displaying within nested navigation
17 space logical changes in context for navigating said
18 process space to explore or define business processes.

1 4. The method of claim 3, further comprising the steps of:

2 responsive to user selection of a zoom out action in
3 connection with a selected process point, determining
4 if said selected process point is zoomable; and, if so

5 highlighting in a new navigation space the zoomed to
6 process point.

1 5. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

2 responsive to user selection of a create process
3 action, accepting and storing a 3-tuple and process

4 definition in a database of generally represented
5 business processes.

1 6. The method of claim 5, further comprising the steps of:

2 responsive to user selection of a process edit action
3 in connection with a selected process, displaying the
4 process definition corresponding to said selected
5 process for editing said selected process by said user.

1 7. The method of claim 5, further comprising the steps of:

2 responsive to user selection of a run process action in
3 connection with a selected process from within the
4 context of all other defined business processes for an
5 organization in a multi-dimensional process space,
6 executing said process.

1 9. System for representing any business process or
2 processes, comprising:

3 a store containing for each of a plurality of said
4 processes a 3-tuple including a noun, a verb and an
5 attribute; and

6 a display operable to display a selected process as a
7 point in navigation space.

1 10. A program storage device readable by a machine,
2 tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a
3 machine to perform method steps for representing any
4 business processes, said method steps comprising:

5 defining each of a plurality of said processes as a 3-
6 tuple including a noun, a verb and an attribute; and

7 displaying a selected process as a point in navigation
8 space; said point representing logical changes in
9 context of said navigation space for exploring or
10 defining business processes.

1 11. An article of manufacture comprising:

2 a computer usable medium having computer readable
3 program code means embodied therein for displaying
4 representations of any business processes, the computer
5 readable program means in said article of manufacture
6 comprising:

7 computer readable program code means for causing a

8 computer to effect defining each of a plurality of said
9 processes as a 3-tuple including a noun, a verb and an
10 attribute; and

11 computer readable program code means for causing a
12 computer to effect displaying a selected process as a
13 point in navigation space; said process point
14 representing logical change in context of said
15 navigation space for exploring or defining business
16 processes.

1 12. Method for representing any business processes
2 comprising the steps of:

3 defining each of a plurality of processes as a 3-tuple
4 including a noun, a verb and an attribute; and

5 displaying a selected process as a process point in
6 navigation space; and

7 nesting a first navigation space in a process point in
8 a second navigation space, said process points
9 representing logical changes in context of said
10 navigation spaces for exploring or defining business
11 processes.

4 providing a business process representation including a
5 set of points in a display of n-dimensional space, each
6 point including at least one verb dimension, at least
7 one noun dimension, and at least one attributes
8 dimension, said set of points representing logical
9 changes in context of said n-dimensional space for
10 exploring or defining business processes; and
11
12 selecting a said point selectively to view, modify or
13 execute the business process represented by said point.

1 34. The method of claim 33, further comprising the step of
2 providing in at least one of said dimensions indicia the
3 selection of which displays the corresponding noun, verb or
4 attribute entries defined by a particular user.

5 36. A business process representation comprising:

6 a point in n-dimensional space including at least one
7 verb dimension, at least one noun dimension, and at
8 least one attributes dimension; said process point
9 representing logical change in context of said space
10 for exploring or defining business processes.

1 48. A program storage device readable by a machine,

2 tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a
3 machine to perform method steps for representing business
4 processes, said method steps comprising

5 defining each of a plurality of processes as a 3-tuple
6 including a noun, a verb and an attribute; and

7 displaying a selected process as a process point in
8 navigation space; and

9 nesting a first navigation space in a process point in
10 a second navigation space;

11 said process points representing logical changes in
12 context of said navigation space for exploring or
13 defining business processes.

1 50. A program storage device readable by a machine,
2 tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a
3 machine to perform method steps for delivering workflow
4 solutions that are immediately useful for customers and
5 readily modified by said customers, said method steps
6 comprising:

7 providing to a customer a generic business process

8 representation including a set of points in n-
9 dimensional space, each point including at least one
10 verb dimension, at least one noun dimension, and at
11 least one attributes dimension; and

12 enabling said customer by selecting a said point to
13 modify said representation for the process represented
14 by said point by selectively adding, deleting and
15 changing a set of actions representing said verb
16 dimension, a set of managed resource objects
17 representing said noun dimension, and a set of
18 expressions representing said attributes dimension,
19 each said expression being capable of evaluation to a
20 Boolean value.

1 51. A program storage device readable by a machine,
2 tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a
3 machine to perform method steps for capturing in workflow
4 solutions the policies a business uses to guide its
5 activities, said method steps comprising:

6 visually displaying in a display panel a navigation
7 space and a plurality of scrollable lists including a
8 noun list, a verbs list and an attributes list;

9 responsive to selection of a noun list entry, a verbs
10 list entry, and an attributes list entry, highlighting
11 in said navigation space a point representing a process
12 tuple;

13 responsive to selection of two entries from two of said
14 lists, highlighting in said navigation space a
15 highlighted plane of points representing process tuples
16 for all entries in the list not selected;

17 responsive to selection of a highlighted point
18 displaying the definition the process represented by
19 said highlighted point.

1 52. A program storage device readable by a machine,
2 tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a
3 machine to perform method steps for making known within an
4 overall business context processes impacted by a policy,
5 said method steps comprising:

6 visually displaying in a display panel a navigation
7 space and a plurality of scrollable lists including a
8 noun list, a verbs list and an attributes list;

9 representing in said navigation space a set of points

10 in n-dimensional space, each said point being a process
11 tuple having a verb dimension, a noun dimension, and an
12 attributes dimension;

13 responsive to selection of a policy in said attributes
14 list, highlighting in said navigation space all process
15 tuples representing process points including said
16 policy.

1 53. A program storage device readable by a machine,
2 tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a
3 machine to perform method steps for enabling understanding
4 of the mechanisms, interactions and inter-relationships of a
5 business process, said method steps comprising:

6 representing said business process as a set of points
7 in n-dimensional space including at least one verb
8 dimension, at least one noun dimension, and at least
9 one attributes dimension;

10 navigating said space by selecting and opening a
11 process point to display another process
12 representation; and

13 extending said space selectively by redefining said

14 dimensions and grouping scalar definitions into super
15 scalar values.

1 54. A program storage device readable by a machine,
2 tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a
3 machine to perform method steps for defining current and
4 future processes of an organization in a manner which
5 facilitates understanding, use and change, said method steps
6 comprising:

7 providing a business process representation including a
8 set of points in n-dimensional space, each point
9 including at least one verb dimension, at least one
10 noun dimension, and at least one attributes dimension;
11 said process points representing logical changes in
12 context of said space for exploring or defining
13 business processes; and

14 selecting a said point selectively to view, modify or
15 execute the business process represented by said point.

16 56. System for representing any business processes
17 comprising:

18 means for defining each of a plurality of processes as

19 a 3-tuple including a noun, a verb and an attribute;

20 means for displaying a selected process as a process
21 point in navigation space; said process point
22 representing logical changes in context of navigation
23 space for exploring or defining business processes.;
24 and

25 means for nesting a first navigation space in a process
26 point in a second navigation space.

59. System for defining any current and future processes of
an organization in a manner which facilitates understanding,
use and change, comprising the steps of:

4 means for providing a business process representation
5 including a set of points in n-dimensional space, each
6 point including at least one verb dimension, at least
7 one noun dimension, and at least one attributes
8 dimension; said points representing logical changes in
9 context of navigation space for exploring or defining
10 business processes; and

11 means for selecting a said point selectively to view,
12 modify or execute the business process represented by

said point.

said point.

[illegible]